



MEDIA ALERT* MEDIA ALERT* MEDIA ALERT*

February 20, 2002 – For Immediate Release

Children and Families First Commission of Santa Clara County

To Preview New Initiatives for Local Kids Prenatal through Age 5

*Nationally Recognized Child Development Expert Karen Hill-Scott, Ed.D. and
California Children and Families Commission Executive Director Jane Henderson, Ph.D.*

To Speak at Policy-Maker Briefing

WHAT: Before an audience of experts, policy-makers and advocates, the Children and Families First Commission of Santa Clara County will preview their programs for the County's youngest residents and their families funded by \$25 million a year in Prop. 10 revenues. The importance of early childhood development and the State Commission's School Readiness Initiative will also be presented.

WHO:

- Karen Hill-Scott, Ed.D., professor at the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research, nationally recognized expert in child development
- Jane Henderson, Ph.D., executive director of the California Children and Families Commission
- Blanca Alvarado, Santa Clara County supervisor, chair of the Children and Families First Commission of Santa Clara County
- County Supervisors, mayors, city council members, elementary school superintendents and school board members from across Santa Clara County
- State and federal officials
- Advocates for children's issues

WHEN: **Wednesday, February 27, 2002, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**
9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Kiosks with information about funded programs
9:45 a.m. Welcome, Blanca Alvarado
10 a.m. Introduction to School Readiness, Jane Henderson, Ph.D.
10:30 a.m. Presentation on funded programs
11:15 a.m. Keynote address, Karen Hill-Scott, Ed.D.

WHERE: Wyndham Hotel
1350 North First Street San Jose, CA 95112

BACKGROUND: The Children and Families First Commission of Santa Clara County was established after voters passed Prop.10 in 1998. The initiative placed a 50 cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes to fund education, health, childcare and other programs for children prenatal through age 5.

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